

# ICAR-Directorate of Groundnut Research, Junagadh

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## A Success Story

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**Title: Economic empowerment of tribal women through improved cultivation of groundnut and its value addition under Tribal Sub Plan (TSP)**

**Challenges:** In the hilly regions of Vizianagaram, tribal farmers face the challenges relating to groundnut cultivation with poor yields due to non-availability of its improved high yielding varieties (HYVs) and knowledge gap in its improved cultivation. Many a time, controlling the excessive vegetative growth of crop is very troublesome. In addition, there is a demand of value added products (VAPs) in groundnut which can't be met locally due to lack of awareness and training.

**Initiative:** Introduction of high yielding foundation seed (Kadiri 7) along with application of organic manures including neem cake and vermicompost, and supply of small implements for improved crop cultivation and value addition, like hand operated battery sprayers, hand hoes and tarpaulins and oil extruder to tribal farmers have been very useful and paid dividends economically. This is again reinforced through financial and technical support of ICAR-DGR, Agricultural Research Station, Vizianagaram, and Farmer Producer Organization (FPO viz., *Deeksha Mahila Welfare Society*, Badangi Mandal, Vizianagaram).

**The Success Story:** A progressive woman farmer named Paradi Chinnammi, w/o Tavitayya of Mettavalasa village used to cultivate Groundnut as a rainfed crop during *kharif* season using seeds of local low yielding varieties with indigenous un-improved cultivation practices. From her one acre of landholding, she could hardly receive 3.0-3.5 quintals of produce categorized as very low productivity with net annual income of Rs. 18000/acre only. This discouraged/demotivated her for groundnut cultivation. Analyzing the causes of low yields, it reveals that availability of local varieties and excessive vegetative growth are the main culprits. Therefore, certain new interventions under the Tribal Sub Plan programme viz., use of high yielding varieties (Kadiri 7), seed treatment with *Rhizobium*, gypsum application etc., have been in force resulting in realization of higher annual income of Rs 32000/acre due to higher production by >3.50 quintals.



Moreover, being an active member of the Farmer Producer Organization (*Deeksha Mahila Welfare Society*, Badangi Mandal, Vizianagaram), she could receive adequate skill-training and support (both financial and moral support). Following intervention of Agricultural Research Station, Vizianagaram and ICAR-DGR, high yielding foundation seed of Kadiri 7 was supplied to her along with other critical inputs (organic manures, like neem cake, and vermicompost) and small but handy value added tools, like hand operated battery sprayers, hand hoes and tarpaulins. These aided her to double the yield of groundnut crop. Oil extruder machine was also supplied in the TSP programme for extraction of groundnut oil through which she could sell locally prepared good quality oil in the nearby markets and earn additional income. Later, with the technical

support of *Deeksha Mahila Welfare Society*, a non-Governmental Organization, she could actively involve herself in the value addition of groundnut further in which various nutritious value-added food products such as groundnut balls, chikki, groundnut masala powder, groundnut oil, etc were made and marketed. As a result of this new intervention the farmer could earn an additional income of Rs. 10,000/- which has led to financial empowerment of the farmer and made her confident and strong to support her family socio-economically. As a result of these, a net profit of around Rs. 26000 per acre per crop was accrued to her.

**Impact:** She continues to actively participate in activities of FPO, *Deeksha Mahila Welfare Society*, Badangi mandal, Vizianagaram. She has become an inspiring woman for others in the village. She has become a successful entrepreneur now with groundnut value added products, like groundnut balls, chikki, groundnut masala powder, groundnut oil etc.

**Lessons Learnt:** Adoption of improved variety along with better crop husbandry (package of practices) and value addition of groundnut could certainly enable livelihood and nutritional security of tribal farm women.

### Supporting Quotes/Images



**Input distribution for tribal farmers**



**On field demonstration of improved variety**



**Value addition of Groundnut**



**Packaging/marketing of value added products**

### Additional Information

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FPO, *Deeksha Mahila Welfare Society*, Badangi mandal, Vizianagaram